

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing media services via an interactive media services client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising:
 - providing a user with an interactive program guide (IPG) identifying a future television program, said television program scheduled to be broadcast at a later time;
 - receiving user input requesting said future television program; and
 - providing said user with said future television program prior to said later time.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - confirming that said user is authorized to receive said future television program.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - charging said user a fee in connection with the provision of said television program.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - charging said user a fee in connection with providing said user with access to future television programming.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of episodes corresponding to a television show.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein a type of said television show is from a group consisting of:
 - a sit-com, a drama series, and a soap opera.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of television programs and a plurality of corresponding channels and start times.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein said user input is provided via a remote control device and said future television program is displayed on a television screen.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is received from a headend.

- 1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is received from a
2 content provider.
- 1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a memory
2 located inside said client device.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage
2 device coupled to said client device.
- 1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage
2 device located in a hub.
- 1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage
2 device located in a node.
- 1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage
2 device located in a cable television system.
- 1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage
2 device coupled to a cable television system.
- 1 17. The method of claim 1, wherein said user is also provided with access to a previously
2 broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.
- 1 18. The method of claim 1, wherein said user is also provided with access to a currently
2 broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.

- 1 19. A media services device for providing a user with a media presentation, said device
2 comprising:
3 logic configured to provide said user with an interactive program guide (IPG)
4 identifying a future television program, said future television program
5 scheduled to be broadcast at a later time; and
6 logic configured to provide said user with said future television program prior
7 to said later time in response to receiving user input requesting said
8 future television program.
- 1 20. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic configured to cause said user to be charged a fee in connection with the
3 provision of said television program.
- 1 21. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic configured to cause said user to be charged a fee in connection with
3 providing the user with access to future television programming.
- 1 22. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic configured to confirm that said user is authorized to receive said future
3 television program.
- 1 23. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of
2 episodes corresponding to a television show.
- 1 24. The media serviced device of claim 23, wherein a type of said television show is from
2 a group consisting of:
3 a sit-com, a drama series, and a soap opera.
- 1 25. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of
2 television programs and a plurality of corresponding channels and start times.
- 1 26. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said user input is provided via a
2 remote control device and said future television program is displayed on a television
3 screen.
- 1 27. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 received from a headend.
- 1 28. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a memory located inside said client device.

- 1 29. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a storage device coupled to said client device.
- 1 30. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a storage device located in a hub.
- 1 31. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a storage device located in a node.
- 1 32. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a storage device located in a cable television system.
- 1 33. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is
2 stored in a storage device coupled to a cable television system.
- 1 34. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising logic configured to
2 provided said user with access to a previously broadcast television program identified
3 in said interactive program guide.
- 1 35. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising logic configured to
2 provided said user with access to a currently broadcast television program identified
3 in said interactive program guide.